

From: Carl Bright
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 1:37am
Subject: Comments about the antitrust settlement

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have been following the Microsoft case since the inception, and I am very disappointed at the outcome. Never before in the history of America has the court system granted a monopoly the ability to continue to illegally bundle products. Until Microsoft is banned from bundling software into the operating system, there will never be another real software innovation or application.

To make my point:

Microsoft bundled disk compression into the OS. - There has not been any further disk compression utilities.

Microsoft bundled the Internet Explorer into the OS. - It has caused all but the extinction of other internet browsers.

Microsoft bundled the Email and Usenet services into the OS. - It has caused all but the extinction of other internet mail programs.

Microsoft is currently bundling incompatible fire wall software into the OS - It will spell the demise of current personal firewall software such as Black Ice.

Microsoft is currently bundling media player(s) into the OS - It will spell the demise of current computer media players.

In short, look at all the independent software selection you now see on the store shelf. Some day they will all be bundled into Microsoft's OS.

The weak actions by the DOJ has caused the death knell for independent software designers because no one will spend time and money to develop innovative software just to have it stolen and integrated into Windows and then harrowed as the next big upgrade.

The General public's last chance for was to divorce the Windows OS from the bundled applications. The DOJ has now made that necessity impossible in the short term and has handed Microsoft the weapons to destroy all software innovation in the foreseeable future.

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